TOWN OF GREENWICH BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION NATHANIEL WITHERELL STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES - Mazza Conference Room, Town Hall

Monday, July 10, 2017

Committee: Arthur D. Norton; Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Jill Oberlander; Nancy Weissler

Others: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 P.M. Ms. Krumeich arrived at 4:28 after the conclusion of the scheduled BET Law Committee meeting.

1. Approval of BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2017

Draft minutes of the June 12, 2017 meeting were distributed and the Committee agreed on language changes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to adopt the June 12, 2017 minutes.

2. Discussion of Nathaniel Witherell Business, Financial Models

Mr. Norton briefed the Committee on a discussion with Special Counsel John Wetmore wherein Mr. Wetmore indicated that he was not aware of a clear delineation of regulatory authority over TNW.

Reference was made to a 1972 RTM action repealing the Greenwich Department of Health's authority over TNW and granting all legal authority to the TNW board of directors. Ms. Oberlander asked what standard of care governed the TNW board of directors. Ms. Weissler inquired about the role and responsibilities of the Bruce Museum board of directors.

The Committee invited Town Attorney Fox to the meeting and requested guidance on: (a) the general standard of care required of any municipal board; and (b) whether a higher level of care is implicated for a health-care related enterprise, such as TNW or a hospital. The Committee further inquired whether any government or publicly owned and operated hospital companies exist in the State of Connecticut.

3. Preliminary Outline and Discussion of Final Report

The Committee discussed how best to communicate the need for greater board involvement and responsibility over business outcomes. Ms. Weissler questioned whether identified goals of efficient fiscal operations and responsible administration could be fully achieved by a government operated enterprise with its higher pay and benefit packages.

4. Items for Future Committee Meetings

The next scheduled meeting is July 31st at 4:00 P.M. in the Mazza room.

5. Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 P.M.

Jill Operlander, Recording Secretary

Arthur D. Norton, Chairman